

an active substance phase comprising at least one active substance; and a matrix material phase comprising at least one polymer or lipid, wherein in case of cellulose the portion of the matrix material phase of the formulation is 70 to 98% by weight, and wherein the formulation is in the form of a freely flowable powder of spray-dried particles such that the matrix material phase is incoherent and the excipient and active substance phases of the formulation are coherent, and the formulation provides controlled-release properties when directly compressed.

4. (Amended) Formulation according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 19-22, wherein the content of the matrix material phase of the formulation is 1 to 98 % by weight.
5. (Amended) Formulation according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 19-22, wherein the content of the matrix material phase of the formulation is 10 to 95 % by weight.
6. (Amended) Formulation according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 19-22, wherein the content of the matrix material phase of the formulation is more than 15 % and not more than 90 % by weight.
7. (Amended) Formulation according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 19-22, wherein the content of the matrix material phase of the formulation is 40 to 70 % by weight.
8. (Amended) Formulation according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 19-22, wherein the matrix material phase comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of polyacrylate, polymethacrylate, naturally-occurring, semi-synthetic and synthetic triglycerides or mixtures thereof, mono- and diglycerides by themselves or in a mixture with one another or with triglycerides, naturally occurring and synthetic waxes, fatty alcohols, including their esters and ethers, and lipid peptides[, in particular synthetic mono-, di- and triglycerides as individual substances or in a mixture, specifically hydrogenated fat, glycerol tri-fatty acid esters, specifically glycerol trilaurate, -myristate, - palmitate, -stearate and -behenate, and waxes, specifically cetyl palmitate, [and] cera alba [(bleached wax, German Pharmacopeia, 9th edition) or] and beeswax.

13. (Amended) Process for the preparation of a [prolonged-release] formulation in the form of a matrix material-containing compound comprising:
- an excipient phase comprising at least one excipient;
 - an active substance phase comprising at least one active substance; and
 - a matrix material phase comprising at least one polymer or lipid, [wherein in case of cellulose materials these cellulose materials are cellulose derivatives, and] wherein the formulation is in the form of spray-dried particles in which the matrix material is incoherent and the excipient and active substance phases are coherent, wherein the phases of the formulation are suspended or suspended and dissolved together in a liquid to form a suspension, the matrix material phase being insoluble in the liquid, and this suspension is then spray dried to form a freely flowable powder which provides controlled-release properties when directly compressed.
19. (Amended) [Prolonged-release formulation] Formulation in the form of a matrix material-containing compound comprising:
- an excipient phase comprising at least one excipient; and
 - a matrix material phase comprising at least one polymer or lipid, [wherein in case of cellulose materials these cellulose materials are cellulose derivatives, and] wherein the formulation is in the form of a freely flowable powder of spray-dried particles in which the matrix material phase is incoherent and the excipient phase is coherent, and the formulation provides controlled-release properties when directly compressed.
20. (Amended) [Prolonged-release formulation] Formulation in the form of a matrix material-containing compound comprising:
- an active substance phase comprising at least one active substance; and
 - a matrix material phase comprising at least one polymer or lipid, [wherein in case of cellulose materials these cellulose materials are cellulose derivatives, and] wherein the formulation is in the form of a freely flowable powder of spray-dried particles in which the matrix material phase is incoherent and the active substance phase is coherent, and the formulation provides controlled-release properties when directly compressed.

21. (Amended) [Prolonged-release formulation] Formulation in the form of a matrix material-containing compound comprising:
- an excipient phase comprising at least one excipient; and
 - a matrix material phase comprising at least one polymer or lipid, wherein [in case of] when said polymer comprises cellulose the portion of the matrix material phase of the formulation is 70 to 98% by weight, and wherein the formulation is in the form of a freely flowable powder of spray-dried particles such that the matrix material phase is incoherent and the excipient phase of the formulation is coherent, and the formulation provides controlled-release properties when directly compressed.
22. (Amended) [Prolonged-release formulation] Formulation in the form of a matrix material-containing compound comprising:
- an active substance phase comprising at least one active substance; and
 - a matrix material phase comprising at least one polymer or lipid, wherein in case of cellulose the portion of the matrix material phase of the formulation is 70 to 98% by weight, and wherein the formulation is in the form of a freely flowable powder of spray-dried particles such that the matrix material phase is incoherent and the active substance phase of the formulation is coherent, and the formulation provides controlled-release properties when directly compressed.
23. (Amended) Process for the preparation of a [prolonged-release] formulation in the form of a matrix material-containing compound comprising:
- an excipient phase comprising at least one excipient; and
 - ~~a matrix material phase comprising at least one polymer or lipid, [wherein~~ in case of cellulose materials these cellulose materials are cellulose derivatives, and] wherein the formulation is in the form of spray-dried particles in which the matrix material is incoherent and the excipient phase is coherent, wherein the phases of the formulation are suspended or suspended and dissolved together in a liquid to form a suspension, the matrix material phase being insoluble in the liquid, and this suspension is then spray dried to form a freely flowable powder which exhibits controlled-release properties when directly compressed.